

Voluntary - Public

Clearance Office: Office of Scientific and Technical Affairs (OSTA)

Date: 5/5/2009

GAIN Report Number:

Moldova - Republic of

Post: Kiev

Moldova Withholds Trade Restrictions due to H1N1 Outbreak

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

Approved By:

Ann E. Murphy, Agricultural Attaché

Prepared By:

Alexander Tarashevych, Agricultural Specialist

Report Highlights:

Moldova withheld restriction on trade in meat products and live animals while unrecognized breakaway Republic of Transdnistria introduced a ban on all products of animal origin from North American and Latin American countries. Both governments reserved the right for further policy changes.

General Information:

Moldova

Emergency meeting of the Antiepidemic Committee of the Republic of Moldova adopted a Resolution stipulating public information campaign and increased awareness at the border crossing points as to possible introduction of H1N1 flu into the country. The Resolution does not contain any trade restricting measures. Official information about the meeting was published on the official GOM web site on May 4th, 2009. In this public announcement the Deputy Minister of Health Oleg Lozan stated that according to the World Health Organization (WHO) and European Department of

Food Products Safety there were no cases of type “A” flue in the animal population.

The head of the Antiepidemic Committee the Vice-Prime Minister Viktor Stepaniuk called for increased attention to the passengers arriving from the countries where the H1N1 flue was discovered. He also called for another meeting during the week to review the developments.

Unrecognized Republic of Transdnistria

Contrary to the Republic of Moldova, unrecognized breakaway Republic of Transdnistria introduced an import ban on all animal products originated from the USA, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Costa-Rica, Columbia, Cuba, Nicaragua, Panama, Salvador, Great Britain and Spain. The President of the unrecognized republic signed a Decree “On strengthening control over imports of animals, foodstuffs and raw materials of animal and vegetable origin and control over entry into Transdnistria of citizens from the countries with high risk of influenza” on April 29th, 2009. The ban covers all products shipped after April 21st, 2009 and reserves the right to change the list depending on epidemiological situation. The ban also covers all products brought to the territory of the republic in hand luggage of travelers.

In a follow-up Decree signed on April 30th, the President prescribed the Border Service to facilitate the Ministry of Health in arranging medical check-points as a part of the border cross-points.